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RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHSN #2743 3171842
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 131842Z NOV 06
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4372
INFO RUEHZA/WHA CENTRAL AMERICAN COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 002743

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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PREL](#) [KN](#) [PARM](#) [KNNP](#) [ES](#)
SUBJECT: EL SALVADOR POSITION ON NORTH KOREA

REF: A. STATE 166404
[1](#)B. SAN SALVADOR 2466

(SBU) In a diplomatic note received by post on October 16, Foreign Minister Lainez responded formally to reftel A demarche with the following GOES position on North Korea. An unofficial translation of the text of the note follows:

"About the issue (North Korean nuclear test), I reaffirm that the Government of El Salvador always has maintained a foreign policy oriented toward achieving multilateralism, the non-proliferation of nuclear arms, and the prohibition of nuclear testing, in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter, and in conformity with the international instruments about the subject, in particular the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

In this regard, I would like to state that the Government of El Salvador will support all initiatives of the United Nations, especially the Security Council, to prevent and offset the threat or use of nuclear arms or of any kind of weapon of mass destruction, independently of the justifications made, or objectives pursued. Consequently, we have sent instructions to our Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York to support relevant initiatives and to make a public statement in the First Committee (of the General Assembly) about the topic."
Barclay